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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/743,649

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Debbie Indira Lewis

RCA 88650

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12/17/2004

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EXAMINER

VENT, JAMIE J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/743,649

Applicant(s)

LEWIS ET AL.

Examiner

Jamie Vent

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/12/2001.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Custers (US 5,063,547) in view of Best (4,659,026).

[claims 1 & 11]

In regard to Claims 1 and 11, Custers et al discloses a method and apparatus of controlling a system for processing stored information on a storage medium, comprising the steps of:

- (a) Playing back stored information during operation mode (Figure 1 element 3 stores information during playback mode);
- (b) Providing to a user, during play mode of operation, an opportunity to select a bookmark, representing a corresponding location within the stored information, from among a plurality of bookmarks responsive to user input (Column 6 Lines 20-29 describes the selection of bookmark/flags to be used);
- (C) Changing to playing back the stored information from the location corresponding to the selected bookmark during the play mode of operation, characterized in that step includes:

- Determining the number and maximum number of bookmarks, which may be associated with the storage medium (Figure 3 shows blocks of memory where a code is assigned to each block thereby the code becomes a bookmark to the data. Only a certain number of blocks can be held depending on the storage medium size. Thereby it can be said the number of bookmarks can be determined due to the number of blocks of data are present as well as the maximum number of bookmarks by comparing the number of blocks that are able to fit in the storage medium as described in Column 4 Lines 31+);
- Generating an on-screen menu displaying the maximum number of the plurality of bookmarks available and the actually available ones of the plurality of bookmarks associated with the storage medium (Column 4 Lines 40+ describes showing the sequence number/bookmarks to the user. Figure 1 element 13); however, fails to clearly disclose
 - a menu allowing the user to perform one of the following: setting a new bookmark, selecting a bookmark and clearing the selected bookmark, selecting a bookmark and play back the stored information from the location corresponding to the selected bookmark; and undo a previously performed operation while continuing to watch the program information playback in a background portion of the video display.

Best discloses a video entertainment system wherein prompted commands/bookmarks prompts the user to choose the outcome of the current program while in playback mode as described in Column 9 Lines 15-23. Furthermore, during playback mode a user will be presented a situation wherein the user will select the outcome of the character via use of bookmarks as seen in Figure 10 and further disclosed in Column 6 Lines 10-20. The bookmarks are presented via text or voice which allows for a new bookmark to be set

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and clears the current bookmark or undo a previous performed operation by selection process, as seen in Figure 9 steps 402 through 410. Furthermore, by using the technique of advance scheduling of bookmarks insures that there is no discontinuity or pause in either video or audio and that both remain in sync through the cue table rescheduling as described in Column 9 Lines 60-64. Thereby, allowing the user to select command cues/bookmarks of the program allows the user to set new, clear, or undo previous bookmarks of the currently played program.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have an apparatus for automatically reproducing a user defined selection of bookmarks, as disclosed by Custers et al, and incorporate a menu which allows the user to select new, undo or delete bookmarks as desired without interrupting current playing of the video system, as disclosed by Best, which allow the user to have full control over the video system and the desired playing features without disrupting the program.

[claim 2]

In regard to Claim 2, Custers et al discloses a method comprising the steps of:

- Grouping the plurality of bookmarks into sets each having a predetermined number of bookmarks (Figure 2 shows the index table comprising serial data in the form of groups of data used to group bookmarks together);
- Storing each group of bookmarks (Column 4 Lines 9-11);
- Providing to the user an opportunity to retrieve a desired set of bookmarks (Column 4 Lines 45-50).

[claim 3]

In regard to Claim 3, Custers et al discloses a system that changes the playback of stored information corresponding to location of data of a bookmark (Figure 1 element 3 processes the playback information while element 6 changes the stored information corresponding to the location of the selected bookmark); however, lacks to provide a user an opportunity to select a first and second bookmark from

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among the plurality of bookmarks. Best discloses a system wherein the user has various bookmarks to choose and select between within the system as described in Column 9 Lines 15-27 the various types of bookmarks and seen in Figure 10 the choice of run or fight.

Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use Custers et al system of storage of bookmarks and incorporate a system that gives the user a first or second choice bookmark to select between, as disclosed by Best, which allows for the user to have more control and selection of the video program.

[claims 4 and 10]

In regard to Claims 4 and 10, Custers et al discloses a method wherein the step of selectively continually repeating the playback of the stored information from the location corresponding to the first selected bookmark to the location corresponding to the location of the another bookmark, in response to user control (Column 3 Lines 7-20 describe the storing of selections as well as changing the selection when user selects another bookmark to be used).

[claims 5 & 7]

In regard to Claim 5, Custers et al discloses a method wherein the storage medium is a CD disk, and wherein the step of determining the bookmarks actually present for the particular CD disk comprises evaluating data related to the CD disk in non-volatile memory in the disk player (Column 2 Lines 12+). Examiner takes official notice that it is obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a DVD system, over Custers et al system comprising a CD player, in order to allow the user easier accessibility as well as a larger storage medium.

[claim 6]

In regard to Claim 6, Custers et al discloses a method of determining whether a bookmark is selected; however, lacks a mode of operation enabling user access to bookmarks during play mode of operation is enabled. Best discloses a system as seen in Figure 2 wherein it is detected if bookmarks are

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to be enable by the comparator 69 to enable access to the bookmarks. Therefore, by incorporating modes that enable or disable access to the user allows for the system to process information correctly when in recording or playback modes.

Therefore, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use Custers et al system of storage of bookmarks and incorporate a system of enabling and disabling modes to the users in order to allow for proper execution of the bookmark depending on the present mode of operation, as disclosed by Best.

[claims 8 & 9]

In regard to Claims 8 and 9, Custers et al discloses a method of setting a new bookmark in response to a user command (Column 3 Lines 7+); however, lacks comprises storing data associated with a pause and resume function, including the nearest NAV_PACK address, in conformance with the DVD specification.

Examiner takes official notice that a pause and resume function would use NAV_PACK according to the DVD specification and it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that a flag would be used for pointing to an address as seen in Claims 8 and 9 as the NAV_PACK.

Conclusion

3. The prior are made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- *Adolph et al (US 6,370,323);*
- *O'Connor et al (US 6,591,058); and*
- *Lewis (US 6,434,097).*

Contact Information

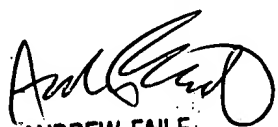
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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 703-305-0378. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on 703-305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jamie Vent
12/8/04


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